

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please delete the abstract presently appearing in this application, and add the following paragraph as the abstract:

An electric machine has a substantially cylindrical stator frame constructed of a stack of electrical steel laminations, a plurality of individual stator magnetisable pole members made of a soft magnetic composite material fixably supported within the stator frame, and a rotor having permanent magnetic pole pieces. Each of the plurality of individual stator magnetisable pole members has coil windings about the stator magnetisable stator pole member, pre-wound before being fixably supported in the stator frame. Each of the plurality of individual stator magnetisable pole members has an inner peripheral rim and an outer circumferential rim separated by a longitudinal column to which the coil is pre-wound before each of the plurality of individual stator magnetisable pole members is fixably supported within the stator frame. The longitudinal column is of a length such that the wounded coil does not extend out over and above the inner and outer rims.